United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Agriculture in Idaho

Cooperating with the Idaho State Department of Agriculture
Idaho Field Office • PO Box 1699 • Boise, Idaho 83701
(800) 691-9987 • (208) 334-1507 • (208) 334-1114 FAX • www.nass.usda.gov

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Mid-March Prices Received by Farmers

Preliminary indications of prices received by Idaho farmers for the month of March showed increases for dry beans, potatoes, all milk, alfalfa hay, and all wheat. Lower prices were received for all barley, malting barley, and feed barley.

For the U.S., the Preliminary All Farms Products Index of Prices Received in March, at 174 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 4 points (2.4 percent) from February. Producers received higher commodity prices for cattle, broilers, milk, and lettuce. Lower prices were received for corn, soybeans, eggs, and cotton.

Prices Received by Farmers for Selected Commodities, March 2010-March 2011

Commodity	Unit	Idaho			United States			
		March 2010	February 2011	March 2011 1/	March 2010	February 2011	March 2011	
							Price 1/	% Parity
CROPS:								
Alfalfa Hay	Ton	107.00	149.00	157.00	113.00	127.00	136.00	--
Barley, All	Bu.	4.71	4.26	4.02	4.22	3.97	4.58	41
Feed	Bu.	2.96	4.60	4.40	2.66	3.55	4.31	--
Malting	Bu.	4.90	4.23	4.00	4.43	4.10	4.64	--
Dry Beans	Cwt.	30.80	28.70	32.50	29.70	28.60	30.30	39
Potatoes 2/	Cwt.	5.35	7.60	8.75	7.42	9.26	9.95	45
Fresh 3/	Cwt.	2.90	9.10	--	5.26	12.07	--	--
Processing	Cwt.	7.80	6.50	--	8.86	7.63	--	--
Wheat, All	Bu.	5.02	6.72	7.00	4.70	7.43	7.63	47
LIVESTOCK &								
Beef Cattle 4/	Cwt.	86.90	8/	8/	90.40	108.00	113.00	42
Cows 5/	Cwt.	56.70	8/	8/	53.50	72.50	73.40	--
Steers & Heifers	Cwt.	96.40	8/	8/	95.70	111.00	116.00	--
Calves	Cwt.	116.00	8/	8/	117.00	139.00	148.00	40
Lambs	Cwt.	101.00	8/	8/	115.00	155.00	--	--
Milk, All 6/	Cwt.	13.10	17.90	20.00	14.80	19.10	20.40	46 7/

1/ Mid-Month. 2/ Average monthly price of potatoes sold for all uses, including table stock, processing, seed and livestock feed. 3/ Fresh market prices only, includes table stock prices. 4/ "Cows" and "steers and heifers" combined. 5/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter. 6/ Before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies. 7/ Seasonally adjusted price as percentage of parity price. 8/ Beginning with January 2011, state level prices were discontinued.

United States Price Index Summary Table

Index	March 2010	February 2011	March 2011
Prices Received	141	170	174
Prices Paid	180	197	199
Ratio prices received to prices paid	78	86	87

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2011 Idaho Planting Intentions

All wheat planted in Idaho is expected to total 1.49 million acres, up 6 percent from last year. Spring wheat plantings are expected to be 640,000 acres, 2 percent more than last year. Winter wheat seedings, at 830,000 acres, increased 11 percent from the 2010 crop. Durum wheat seedings are expected to total 15,000 acres, down 5,000 acres from 2010. Idaho farmers intend to seed 390,000 acres of field corn in 2011, up 22 percent from last year. If realized, this will be a new record high. Barley seedings are expected to total 500,000 acres, up 10,000 acres from last season. Oat seedings are expected to be 60,000 acres, down 14 percent from last year. Dry bean planting intentions decreased 33 percent from last year to 90,000 acres. Dry bean estimates include chickpeas, which are grown primarily in North Idaho. Chickpea planting intentions totaled 48,000 acres, down 9 percent from 2010. All hay expected to be harvested, at 1.37 million acres, is down 7 percent from 2010. Sugarbeet plantings are expected to total 177,000 acres, up 4 percent from last year. Lentil acreage is expected to be 45,000 acres, down 18 percent from 2010. Dry edible pea acreage, at 25,000 acres, is expected to be down 19 percent from last year. Austrian winter pea acres are expected to total 6,000 acres, down 45 percent from 2010. Canola acres are expected to total 19,000 acres, down 3 percent from 2010.

Nationally, growers intend to plant 92.2 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2011, up 5 percent from last year and 7 percent higher than in 2009. Oat growers intend to plant an estimated 2.84 million acres, down 10 percent from the 3.14 million acres planted in 2010. Barley producers intend to plant 2.95 million acres for the 2011 crop year, up 3 percent from the previous year. All wheat producers intend to plant 58.0 million acres for the 2011 crop year, up 8 percent from the previous year. The 2011 winter wheat planted area is estimated at 41.2 million acres, up 10 percent from 2010 and up 1 percent from the previous estimate. Area seeded to durum wheat is estimated at 2.37 million acres, down 8 percent from 2010. Spring wheat growers intend to plant 14.4 million acres this year, up 5 percent from 2010. Hay producers expect to harvest 59.0 million acres of all hay in 2011, down 1 percent from 2010. Canola producers intend to plant a record high 1.61 million acres in 2011, up 11 percent from 2010. Sugarbeets area planted for the 2011 crop year is expected to total 1.19 million acres, up 1 percent from the previous year. Dry beans growers intend to plant 1.30 million acres in 2011, down 32 percent from last year. Expected area planted for all chickpeas is 138,900 acres, down 5 percent from last year. Lentils area planted for the 2011 crop year is expected to total 710,000 acres, up 8 percent from 2010. If realized, this will be a record high since records began in 1986. Dry edible peas growers intend to plant 586,000 acres, down 22 percent from 2010. Austrian winter peas area planted for the 2011 crop year is expected to total 20,000 acres, down 36 percent from a year ago. Acreage actually planted may vary from those indicated as a result of weather, economic conditions, availability of production inputs and the effect of this report itself.

Planted Acreage 2009-2010 & Planting Intentions March 1, 2011 – Idaho & U.S

CROP	PLANTED		PLANTING	2011/2010
	2009	2010	2011 1/	
		Thousand Acres		*Percent*
IDAHO				
All Wheat	1,310.0	1,400.0	1,485.0	106
Winter Wheat	740.0	750.0	830.0	111
Spring Wheat	550.0	630.0	640.0	102
Durum Wheat	20.0	20.0	15.0	75
Corn 2/	300.0	320.0	390.0	122
Oats	80.0	70.0	60.0	86
Barley	530.0	490.0	500.0	102
All Hay 3/	1,510.0	1,470.0	1,370.0	93
Sugarbeets	164.0	171.0	177.0	104
Dry Beans 4/	100.0	135.0	90.0	67
Lentils	53.0	55.0	45.0	82
Dry Edible Peas	42.0	31.0	25.0	81
Austrian Winter Peas	8.0	11.0	6.0	55
Canola	15.0	19.5	19.0	97
UNITED STATES				
All Wheat	59,168.0	53,603.0	58,021.0	108
Winter Wheat	43,346.0	37,335.0	41,229.0	110
Spring Wheat	13,268.0	13,698.0	14,427.0	105
Durum Wheat	2,554.0	2,570.0	2,365.0	92
Corn 2/	86,382.0	88,192.0	92,178.0	105
Oats	3,404.0	3,138.0	2,839.0	90
Barley	3,567.0	2,872.0	2,952.0	103
All Hay 3/	59,775.0	59,862.0	58,973.0	99
Sugarbeets	1,185.8	1,171.4	1,187.1	101
Dry Beans 4/	1,540.0	1,911.4	1,303.5	68
Lentils	415.0	658.0	710.0	108
Dry Edible Peas	863.3	756.0	586.0	78
Austrian Winter Peas	20.5	31.2	20.0	64
Canola	827.0	1,448.8	1,611.8	111

1/ Intended plantings in 2011 as indicated by reports from farmers. 2/ Excludes sweet corn. 3/ Area harvested 2009-10, intended for harvest 2011. 4/ Excludes beans grown for garden seed.

March 1 Grain Stocks

Idaho's March 1, 2011 stocks of all wheat stored in all positions totaled 39.9 million bushels, virtually unchanged from last year. On-farm storage was estimated at 12.5 million bushels, down from last year's 17.5 million bushels. Off-farm stocks, including stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors was estimated at 27.4 million bushels, up 22 percent from March 1, 2010. Barley stocks in all positions totaled 26.8 million bushels, down 14 percent from a year ago. On-farm storage was estimated at 6.50 million bushels, down 41 percent from a year ago. Off-farm storage was estimated at 20.3 million bushels, up 1 percent from last year's 20.0 million bushels.

Nationally, all wheat stored in all positions March 1, 2011 totaled 1.42 billion bushels, up 5 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 288 million bushels, down 17 percent from last March. Off-farm stocks, at 1.14 billion bushels, are up 13 percent from a year ago. Barley stocks in all positions on March 1, 2011 totaled 138 million bushels, down 12 percent from March 1, 2010. On-farm stocks are estimated at 57.7 million bushels, 14 percent below a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 80.3 million bushels, are 11 percent below March 2010. Oats stored in all positions on March 1, 2011, totaled 86.3 million bushels, 12 percent below the stocks on hand March 1, 2010. Of the total stocks on hand, 27.0 million bushels are stored on farms, down 13 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks totaled 59.4 million bushels, down 11 percent from the previous year. Corn stocks in all positions on March 1, 2011, totaled 6.52 billion bushels, down 15 percent from March 1, 2010. Of the total stocks, 3.38 billion bushels were stored on farms, down 26 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 3.14 billion bushels, are down slightly from a year ago.

Idaho Honey Production Decreased 44 Percent

Idaho honey production in 2010 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 2.65 million pounds, a 44 percent decrease from 2009. Honey producing colonies are estimated at 98,000 colonies, down 5,000 colonies from last year. Yield per colony averaged 27 pounds, down 19 pounds from 2009. Producer honey stocks were 1.19 million pounds on December 15, 2010, a decrease of 30 percent from the previous year. The average honey price per pound was 150.0 cents, down two cents from a year ago.

Nationally, honey production in 2010 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 176 million pounds, up 20 percent from 2009. There were 2.68 million colonies producing honey in 2010, up 7 percent from 2009. Yield per colony averaged 65.5 pounds, up 12 percent from the 58.6 pounds in 2009.

Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State where the honey was produced. Therefore, at the United States level yield per colony may be understated, but total production would not be impacted. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 45.3 million pounds on December 15, 2010, up 21 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude those held under the commodity loan program.

Honey prices increased to a record high during 2010 to 160.3 cents, up 9 percent from 147.3 cents in 2009. U.S. and State level prices reflect the portions of honey sold through cooperatives, private channels, and retail. Prices for each color class are derived by weighting the quantities sold for each marketing channel. Prices for the 2009 crop reflect honey sold in 2009 and 2010. Some 2009 crop honey was sold in 2010, which caused some revisions to the 2009 crop prices.

Honey: Price by Color Class, United States, 2009-2010

Color Class	Co-op and Private		Retail		All	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
	Cents Per Pounds		*Cents Per Pounds*		*Cents Per Pounds*	
Water White, Extra White, White	142.6	156.2	252.6	293.7	144.0	158.3
Extra Light Amber	144.5	151.4	252.5	251.6	150.4	156.6
Light Amber, Amber, Dark Amber	135.1	148.2	291.4	329.2	148.2	164.1
All Other Honey, Area Specialties	179.8	171.7	414.3	433.5	247.9	205.0
All Honey	141.5	153.1	283.7	305.4	147.3	160.3

Idaho Farm Numbers Up From 2009

The number of farms and ranches in Idaho in 2010 totaled 25,700, up 200 operations from 2009. Total land in farms in Idaho, at 11.4 million acres, was unchanged from 2009 and 2008. The average size of farm was 444 acres in 2010, down from 447 acres in 2009.

The number of farms in the United States in 2010 is estimated at 2.2 million, virtually unchanged from 2009. Total land in farms, at 920.0 million acres, increased 100 thousand acres from 2009. The average farm size is 418 acres, unchanged from the previous year.

USDA'S definition of a farm is "any place from which $1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the year". Government payments are included in sales. Ranches, institutional farms, experimental and research farms, and Indian Reservations are included as farms. Places with the entire acreage enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), or other government programs are counted as farms.

The definition of a farm was first established in 1850 and has changed nine times since. The current definition was first used for the 1974 Census.

U.S. Dairy Products February 2011 Highlights

Total cheese output (excluding cottage cheese) was 807 million pounds, 4.1 percent above February 2010 but 9.0 percent below January 2011.

Italian type cheese production totaled 352 million pounds, 6.6 percent above February 2010 but 9.3 percent below January 2011.

American type cheese production totaled 329 million pounds, 2.6 percent above February 2010 but 8.5 percent below January 2011.

Butter production was 150 million pounds, 6.4 percent above February 2010 but 9.8 percent below January 2011.

Dry milk powders (comparisons with February 2010)
Nonfat dry milk, human - 110 million pounds, down 6.9 percent.
Skim milk powders - 36.2 million pounds, up 64.4 percent.

Whey products (comparisons with February 2010)
Dry whey, total - 81.8 million pounds, up 4.6 percent.
Lactose, human and animal - 74.9 million pounds, up 17.7 percent.
Whey protein concentrate, total - 31.9 million pounds, up 1.7 percent.

Frozen products (comparisons with February 2010)
Ice cream, regular (hard) - 62.3 million gallons, down 1.4 percent.
Ice cream, lowfat (total) - 27.9 million gallons, up 1.2 percent.
Sherbet (hard) - 3.11 million gallons, down 15.8 percent.
Frozen yogurt (total) - 4.23 million gallons, down 5.2 percent.